

Adm. 322

Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

May 18, 2006

Beth A. O'Donnell, Executive Director
Public Service Commission
211 Sower Blvd
Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

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Executive
Director's Office

Director O'Donnell:

As Executive Director of the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (KCDHH), I am writing to officially request an increase in the portion of the telecommunications surcharge that supports the telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) program, which is administered by this agency.

Provisions listed in House Bill 468 stated that "Notwithstanding KRS 278.5499, the funding mechanism for the TDD program shall allocate not more than two cents per access line per month." HB 468 was attached to the budget bill during the 2006 Legislative session and passed as a part of the non-codified section of the law.

Although the Public Service Commission statute (KRS 278.5499) will not be revised, it is superseded by the language in the budget bill and is effective for the upcoming biennium, FY 06-07 and FY 07-08. Therefore, the portion of the surcharge allocated to administer the TDD program should be increased from one cent to two cents effective July 12, 2006.

The increased funding will be used by KCDHH to expand the TDD program, now called the Telecommunications Access Program (TAP) of Kentucky, and will allow deaf, hard of hearing and speech impaired citizens of the Commonwealth to obtain specialized equipment needed to access telephone services.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Please feel free to contact me at bobbiebeth.scoggins@ky.gov if you have any questions, or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Bobbie Beth Scoggins, Ed. D.
KCDHH Executive Director

CC: Jim Stevens